

SENATE BILL 7065

By Swann

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, relative to social interaction.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section, "social interaction" means an exchange between two (2) or more students involving verbal or non-verbal communication.

(b) To improve students' ability to recover from stress, anxiety, and depression and reduce the risk of violent and suicidal behaviors, each LEA shall provide its students with a minimum of eight (8) combined hours of social interaction each month of the school year if school is in session for at least twenty percent (20%) of the month, or for a minimum of four (4) combined hours each month if school is in session for less than twenty percent (20%) of the month; provided, however, that social interaction is not required for a month in which there is no scheduled instruction for the LEA.

(c) An LEA shall not allow a student to participate in social interaction using an electronic device to satisfy the requirement in subsection (b) unless the student is receiving remote instruction.

(d) An LEA shall determine the amount of social interaction required for each course offered by the LEA to satisfy the requirements of subsection (b). Each teacher shall determine how best to provide the amount of social interaction required for the courses taught by the teacher using a course outline created by the teacher.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to the 2024-2025 school year and each school year thereafter.